

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. BA-2748

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common 618 Regester / Balto. Co.

2. Location

street & number 618 Regester Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Baltimore ☒ vicinity of congressional district Ninth

state Maryland county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert L. Huether and Maureen A. Huether

street & number 618 Regester Avenue telephone no.: 410 - 377-4677

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21212

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courts Building liber 8594

street & number Bosley Avenue folio 464

city, town Towson state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. BA-2748

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Refer to Continuation sheet 7.1 for Description.

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2748

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1926 **Builder/Architect** Rudolph Nolker/Dev: Stoneleigh Corp.

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Refer to Continuation sheet 8.1 for Significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-2748

Personal Interviews with Margaret McElroy and Maureen Huether, 16 Nov. 1993

Refer to Continuation sheet 9.1 for Bibliographical References.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot no. 52, 53, & 1/2 of 51, Block 11, Stoneleigh - Plat Reference 7 : 87

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marianne M. Graham, AIA

organization

date 9 December 1993

street & number 1775 Old Annapolis Blvd.

telephone 410 - 757-8507

city or town Annapolis

state Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM****618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.**

Description (continued)

7.1

The house at 618 Regester Avenue occupies lots 52, 53 and 1/2 of lot 51 within Block 11 on the north side of the street which forms the southernmost neighborhood boundary of Stoneleigh in Baltimore County just north of the present Baltimore City/County line but south of Towson. The structure is a clear example of the American Foursquare house and also exhibits vernacular Prairie style overtones in its form and detail. It is a detached, cubic form, two-story frame dwelling on a stone foundation enclosing a high basement, all typical elements of this folk style in the 1920's. Its adaptation of the classic four-square plan (26 feet x 26 feet) is topped with a low-pitched pyramidal roof, wide-overhanging eaves (void of brackets) and hipped dormers facing the south front facade and north rear facade. Dominating the south front facade is the typical one-story, full-width porch with low-pitched hipped roof, which houses an off-center entrance and original enclosed sun porch.. Sitting remote in the northwest corner of the property to the rear of the house is a front gabled single car garage. The house and garage sit on the east end of a bank of five identically massed houses (though differing exterior materials and alternating between hipped roofs and front gabled roofs), which were among the first to be built on this portion of Regester Avenue.

The house and porch roofs as well as the walls and roofs of the two dormers, are clad in original slate shingles. The original stucco finish on wooden frame and wooden planked soffits are currently sheathed with white vinyl siding recently added by the previous owner. A continuous formed metal gutter system has also been added along the fascia board with numerous exposed downspouts diverting water to the ground level. Other modern improvements include full enclosure of the entrance and sun porch, repacing all doors and windows within the enclosure (executed during the early 1960's), and protecting all remaining original doors with storm doors. With the exception of the porch enclosure, all exterior wood paneled doors and windows are original and remain outlined with the original flat, wide entablature. This simple entablature and the style of the original wooden windows and paneled wooden doors are indicative of the influence of the Midwestern Prairie style on the Colonial Revival in the East.

The principal facade of the house faces south, toward the street. The two story, two bay wide facade with one-story full width enclosed sun porch is made asymmetrical with the off-center entrance door and shallow semi-hexagonal bay projection directly above, falling within the left western bay. At the remodeled porch enclosure, the modern front door is flanked with one 2/2 horizontal sash window on the left and a pair on the right. (Originally, this left bay was the open porch with corner pier, leading to a recessed 15 light wood door flanked by 5 light sidelights and topped with a 5 light transom, still remaining at the neighboring houses to the west.) In the right bay an original bank of four 1/1 windows were replaced with a single fixed glass picture panel flanked with two 2/2 windows, a composition popular in the 1950's and 60's when the changes were made. Similar window configurations were installed on the west and east ends of the porch enclosure, replacing sets of triple 1/1 windows. Still present are the irregularly coursed stone

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Description (continued)

7.2

piers supporting the porch. The original concrete steps have been faced in stone to create a new stone porch projection and steps (required when the door was brought forward), and a delicate modern wrought iron railing added, where no previous railing had existed. To the right of the steps where a wooden lattice screen between the piers once enclosed the crawl space under the porch, foundation planting obscures the modern cinder block infill. A flush wood panel provides access into the projected crawl space of the porch on the east side. On the second floor within each of the three faces of the projecting bay above the entrance door, lies a 6/1 window, and centered on the right bay of the second story is a 6/1 window. At the attic level, a hipped roof dormer is centered on the roof and houses a pair of horizontal shaped jalousie windows. The brick masonry chimney projects from the east facade on the right, breaking through and rising out of the wide overhanging eave.

The three bay wide west facade is relatively symmetrical around a centrally placed cellar door (with 2 vertical recessed panels and 4 lights forming a square above) and square 6 light wood casement window above, both corresponding to the location of the stairway landing within the house. Centered in the right and left bay at the first floor is a relatively large, vertical 6/1 window, with a smaller 6/1 window above at the second floor. Cellar 3 light awning windows are placed within the right and left bay, the right being centered under the windows above, and the left being offset toward the cellar door.

An original one-story porch addition with a low-pitched hipped roof, located on the right side, dominates the otherwise symmetrical two bay wide rear north facade. Centered on the enclosure is a 6/1 window with a 6 light casement window to the left and a 4 foot wide recessed open porch on the right leading to the rear entrance door (with 2 horizontal recessed panels with 4 lights above forming a square) located at the face of the main house. The west and east facades of the addition have no fenestration. The original set of steep brick steps with cast iron rod railing either side, extends the width of the open porch which is supported on the right corner with a simple square wooden post. The ceiling of the porch is clad in the original darkly stained wooden tongue and groove material. A modern wrought iron railing has been added extending from the post to the house. A cinder block wall fills in the porch foundation between the brick piers, with a flush wooden door to the left of the steps providing access to the protected crawl space. A large vertical 6/1 window is centered on the left bay of the first floor of the main house with a smaller 6/1 window above and a 3 light cellar awning window below. A 6/1 window is centered on the right bay over the addition. A single hipped dormer is identical to the one on the front facade. To the left, a projecting bay (18 inches) cantilevers from the east facade, extending from the line of the stone foundation to the underside of the overhanging eave.

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Description (continued)

7.3

The three bay wide east facade is dominated by the chimney rising from grade between the left and center bays and the shallow cantilevered projection extending the full height of the right bay. The brick masonry chimney (running bond), steps up to the right from full width to half width at the second story. At the roof level, it pierces the overhanging eave and extends to a simple cap. The chimney is flanked with two square 6 light casement windows at the first floor (height placed in line with the top of other first floor windows), and two 6/1 windows above both offset to the right of the lower windows. Centered within the 10 feet wide projecting right bay is a set of paired large vertical 6/1 windows with smaller paired 6/1 windows above. One cellar awning window (3 light) pierces the stone foundation just right of the chimney and one is centered below the projecting bay. (The underside of the projecting bay is clad with the original stained wooden tongue & groove material.)

The interior plan of the house is an adaptation of the folk four-square plan with recent changes. This was especially evident when the entrance door originally opened directly from the porch into the parlour which extends the full width of the front pile. The enclosed sun porch, attached to the southeast bay along the front, was only accessible from the parlour along the south wall through 15 light double doors identical to the original front door. With the modern enclosure of the recessed porch, the entrance into the house is directly into a full-width family room. A paneled storage cabinet, matching the paneled wall finish, occupies the depth of the wall and projects slightly where the original entrance door had entered into the parlour. A modern cast iron hot water baseboard unit, running continuously under the main window on the front south wall and the east wall, replaced a single cast iron pipe radiator placed in front of the south window only. Access to the parlour (living room) is through the original double doors at the opposite end of the room from the entrance door; hence, the sun porch awkwardly takes on the role of a wide passage.

Within the house, the original smooth finished plaster walls and ceilings remain. The ceiling height on the first floor is 8 feet, 10 inches and 8 feet even on the second floor. Wall to wall carpeting conceals the original hardwood floors, typical throughout the house. All the original interior doors remaining in the house retain the original brass hinges with simple round finials and blackened brass flattened round door knobs with rectangular plate and skeleton keyhole. The doors are accented with a wide, flattened architrave ending in an ogee curve, and mitered at the upper corners, typical of all door and window wood moulded surrounds throughout the house. All double-hung windows throughout have brass sash lifts and sash fasteners, most currently painted. Also remaining intact throughout is the 7 inch high painted, simple profile wood baseboard, detailed only at the upper portion angling vertically into the wall surface. All the materials and detailing mentioned are representative of the folk style of the house.

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Description (continued)

7.4

The dominant room on the first level is the generously proportioned parlour (12 feet by 26 feet), accented with an L-shaped open stringer staircase beginning along the west wall and turning right from a landing in the northwest corner. The bottom step with oak tread and riser (concealed by carpet) has an exaggerated semi-circular end extending into the room and serves as the base for the newel post. The pine square newel post, darkly stained, steps up from a simple wide base to a recessed paneled body and a stepped cap. A stained pine railing rests on the painted bulky 2 x 2 square section balusters (both newel post and balusters of Prairie influence) and the stringer is simply outlined with fluted wood trim and flat trim at the stair ends. A square high casement window above the landing lights the corner. Across from the staircase, centered on the east wall, is a projecting stone-faced fireplace (semi-recessed in exterior wall) which culminates in a substantially proportioned mantel shelf. The painted mantel shelf with an inverted gently stepped design is original; however, the stone-facing at the fireplace front and slate at the flush hearth was added over the original brick front and hearth. Built-in painted wood bookshelves have also been added under high square casement windows flanking the fireplace and extending the full width of the room. Painted paneling has also been added to this wall terminating with crown moulding at the original plaster ceiling. At the time of the improvements, a single cast iron radiator centered under the high window to the left of the fireplace and a single cast iron radiator centered under the large window on the west wall directly opposite the fireplace, were replaced with a modern cast iron baseboard heating unit running continuously along the south and west walls, but breaking at the original entrance location. (This would indicate that these improvements were completed prior to the enclosure of the porch and subsequent closing of the original entrance opening, currently plastered smooth with the contiguous walls.) On the north wall of the parlour, a set of original double 15 light doors leading to the dining room are immediately opposite the identical sun porch double doors. Between the double doors on the right and the staircase on the left is a doorway (with modern bi-fold louvered panels) which leads into a short narrow corridor past the door to the cellar stairs and into the kitchen.

The dining room, located in the northeast corner (12 feet x 12 feet), is square in plan with a shallow rectangular bay extending from the east wall. Within this recess is placed a cast iron radiator centered under paired large windows. A large window is centered on the north wall across from the double doors and a doorway with modern louvered double door panels (originally single swinging door on pivot hinge) leading to the kitchen is located on the west wall. Minor alterations include the addition of a wood chair rail at the sill height, with wallpaper above and a square acoustical tile ceiling and crown moulding. It is unknown whether the crystal chandelier centered on the room is original.

The smaller square kitchen in the northwest corner of the house has been modernized with new cabinetry where once was only a stove sitting alone and a wide cast iron wall mounted sink hung under the window along the west wall. To the right of the sink on the far west end of the north wall is the rear door leading

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Description (continued)

7.5

through the porch to brick steps down to the rear yard. (Between the sink and the door sits the original cast iron radiator.) On the north wall to the right of the rear porch door is a doorway connecting the kitchen to the pantry within the rear addition. The door here was removed and replaced with folding bifold louvered doors. A wood chair rail and wallpaper have also been added to this room and the floor is currently vinyl tile.

Within the pantry, the previous owner remembers the original built-in pantry cabinet, the width of the west wall, and a cast iron wall mounted sink and metal cabinetry along the south wall, all removed when the owner adapted the space into a powder room in the early 1960's. The small sink cabinet and toilet currently sit at the far east end of the room. The small narrow room is lit by a window on the north wall and a small square casement window above the sink. Between the two windows sits the original cast iron radiator. The floor is currently vinyl tile.

On the second floor, four corner bedrooms open onto a central narrow hall, terminating at the bathroom on the east side opposite the stairs. All upstairs doors, including closet doors, have 2 recessed panels and windows are smaller 6/1 versions of those below. The major bedroom (southwest), is enlarged with the projecting semi-hexagonal bay adorned with a window on each face. Another window is located on the west wall, also the location of the radiator. The small protruding closet in the northwest corner has been extended the width of the north wall to the entrance door (the only architectural change on the second floor). The smaller bedroom to the southeast, has a window on the south wall, and a window on the centered on the east wall, the location of the cast iron radiator. A small closet is carved out of the floor space of the bathroom.

The small, narrow bathroom at the center of the house to the east, has been modernized with new fixtures, the addition of a shower head in the bathtub, and finishing with masonite board. However, the original cast iron bathtub (along south wall), wooden framed recessed medicine cabinet, marble sill, white hexagonal tile floor and portions of the white rectangular tile wainscoting remain. A cast iron radiator provides heat for the room, located at the east end of the room, under a window.

The pair of bedrooms to the north are divided with staggered closets, protruding half the closet depth into each room. The bedroom in the northeast corner benefits from the added space created with the full height projecting bay, rising from the dining room below. Centered within this bay are paired windows. A radiator sits below a window on the north wall. The bedroom to the northwest is lit by a window on the north and one on the west wall, the location of the radiator. In the southwest corner, a doorway (accordion door replaces original removed door) conceals an enclosed stairlanding directly above the landing within the parlour, which leads to stairs to the attic.

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Description (continued)

7.6

The attic, accessed by a centered narrow enclosed stairway from the west, contains a room with modern finishes for use as a bedroom space. A narrow bathroom with only a toilet and double sinks was added on the east across from the stairs in the 1960's. The floor is lit by paired jalousie windows located within dormers to the north and south.

The cellar is accessed from a L-shaped enclosed stairway directly under the main stair, which is accessed through a door between the parlour and the kitchen. The mid run landing falls along the west wall, where the original door with black metal rimlock leads directly to grade level near the driveway. The stairway becomes open as it turns south along the east wall. Similar to the attic, the cellar contains a room with modern finishes for use as a play room and for storage. Along the east wall, is a continuous enclosure with doors leading to a washer/dryer, a small narrow bathroom with sink, toilet and prefab shower enclosure, and a utilitarian area housing the hot water heater and gas-fired boiler in place since the 1950's. There was evidence when the previous owner occupied the house, of the original coal bin for the former boiler. There is no evidence of the cellar windows within the finished cellar room.

To the rear of the house in the far northwestern corner of the property sits the remote one-car garage. The front gabled garage still retains the original slate roof, and stucco finish of the house on the west, north and east facades, but has been sided with vinyl siding on the front south facade. The utilitarian structure is characterized by the open eaves. The wood replacement door has 16 square panels. The garage is accessed from a straight, narrow concrete driveway running along the west side of the house to the street. A parallel concrete sidewalk approaches the entrance of the house from the street and community sidewalk. The landscaping of the property contains a balance of small and mature trees of differing varieties and foundation planting in the front. A chain link fence surrounds the rear yard of the property.

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Significance (continued)

8.1

The house at 618 Regester is not only a clear representative example of American folk architecture, embodying the ideals of the middle-class in the early 20th century, but within its neighborhood context of Regester Avenue and the community of Stoneleigh to the north, it symbolizes the uncontrollable forces of modern suburban development acting on the rural landscape beyond the limits of the burgeoning American city, Baltimore City in particular.

In the early 1920's, when the first development plans of Stoneleigh* were presented to the heirs of Robert P. Brown, Regester Avenue and Stevenson Lane were well established thoroughfares through the rural countryside of Baltimore County. (The heirs still resided in the stately Italian villa style "Stoneleigh House" built by the wealthy Brown of Baltimore City in the 1850's on 230 acres, purchased from Govane Howard, located east of York Road. "Stoneleigh, ..., lay north of Anneslie, and the two properties were separated then as now by Regester avenue, which took its name from John Regester, Baltimore iron founder who owned property in the area now known as Idlewylde and who acquired a right of way from the Harrisons and Browns in order to have an exit to York road."¹ (The Harrisons at this time lived on the estate called "Anneslie", built on 100 acres from the original 230 acres, south of Stoneleigh House sold by Brown to a member of his family. To the north of Stoneleigh House, on the south side of Stevenson Lane, Rodgers Forge served as a blacksmith shop, operated by the Rodgers family. To the west of York Road was the extensive Dumbarton Farm, developed by Towson businessman Colonel David McIntosh, known for its Jersey cattle.² (Refer to the attached sketch of the Historic Bromley Atlas Map of 1915.)

Even more historic, York Road, running north/south had been constructed as early as the late 18th century to serve as a direct road or "turnpike" connecting the cities of Baltimore and York, Pennsylvania, along which townships emerged (early 19th century) such as Govanstown just north of Baltimore City and Towsontown. "The York road, becoming increasingly important, in 1847 attained the dignity of having an omnibus line operating from Govanstown to Towsontown, the latter soon (1851) to become capital of Baltimore county following the political separation of Baltimore City and the County. ... The original bus line of 1847 was succeeded in 1863 by horse cars operating on rails laid on the east side of York road all the way to Towson. These same rails were used by trolleys when the lines were electrified."³ This transportation link directly to the city provided the catalyst for "suburban flight" in the early 20th century. As the war effort developed (World War I), the population of Baltimore City expanded greatly with workers arriving to man the shipyards and war equipment plants. The exodus of the middle and upper-middle class from the city thus began in full force, seeking relief from the congested city in affordable suburban developments. ⁴

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Significance (continued)

8.2

The superior planning for the residential suburb of Stoneleigh by a group of men directed by Irvin E. Butler (previously involved with the development of the desirable Roland Park and Guilford in Baltimore)⁵ took advantage of the well located Brown property fronting on York Road just beyond the new city line (established above Walker Avenue in 1919) with its rolling terrain and mature trees planted by the Browns. The resulting formation of the Stoneleigh Corporation proceeded after 1923 with the sales of lots and the speculative construction of houses to serve as a catalyst for the community development and "establish the architectural tone" of the community.⁶ The desire for a "superior" residential development was evident as strict covenant/deed restrictions, a direct adaptation of those in the deed (566:345) granting the land to the Stoneleigh Corporation from the Robert P. Brown heirs, were placed on the value (\$7,500 minimum, \$5,000 in the original deed) and type of structure which could be erected by a property owner. The covenants, restricting structures to residential, attempted to protect the development from unsightly commercial establishments. The covenants also prohibited certain racial and religious extractions from property ownership. With many new property owners seeking the protection these covenants enforced, the 110 acre community grew rapidly around the reserved property of the Stoneleigh House, with 100 homes occupied by 1927. The Financial Panic of 1929 and the Great Depression marked the demise of the Stoneleigh Corporation and the quick pace of construction declined rapidly until the original house, after the death of Mary Leigh Brown, was demolished in the 1950's to make way for further development.⁷ The Stoneleigh Community Association, Inc. was created later in the 1930's with the intent of "maintaining the restrictions upon which were based the community's high standards."⁸

The houses constructed on Regester were intended to provide a boundary from the community across from Anneslie, also undergoing development, and to create a buffer for the peaceful development of Stoneleigh from the busy community traffic along Regester Avenue. At the time of the early development of Stoneleigh, these properties were prime examples of homes attracting the middle-class from the city to the suburbs. It has already been established, within the architectural description of the property (Refer 7:Description), that the house at 618 Regester and the bank of similar houses to the west (610, 612, 614, 616)** embody the physical characteristics of the American Foursquare style. The house style becomes even more significant with the evidence of Prairie style features and detailing (although adapted in a vernacular fashion). This house style was developed for the typical American family pursuing the typical American dream.

It is believed by the author through research of this property, (but not substantiated), that Rudolph F. Nolker, a builder residing at 4809 Harford Road, constructed these 5 houses on Regester Avenue in cooperation with the Stoneleigh Corporation.. Mr. Nolker and his wife Georgia purchased properties 610 and 614 Regester from the Stoneleigh Corporation, owning briefly, and sold them in 1925

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Significance (continued)

8.3

(615:53) and 1926 (635:110) respectively. 618 Regester was purchased directly from the Stoneleigh Corporation in September of 1926 by Gilbert H. and Ella S. Unruh. Mr. Unruh was a manufacturer's agent and held his office at 14 S. Calvert, R800. Owners of the property from 1935 through 1961 were T. Edward and Helen M. Kesting. Mr. Kesting was a civil engineer with his office located at 817 Gorsuch Avenue. Their daughter, Patricia, was a psychologist with the City Board of School Commissioners while living in the house. Purchasing the property in 1961 from Mrs. Kesting, James P. and Margaret E. McElroy held the property until 1990 when Mrs. McElroy sold the house to her daughter, Maureen, and her husband, Robert L. Huether. During the time of their ownership, Mr. and Mrs. McElroy, having 6 children, made substantial adaptations to the house in the early 1960's to accommodate their family. Mr. McElroy was an assistant sales manager for Hamm's Brewery.⁹

Following are examples of the long-time owners of the other houses studied who held similar positions. George F. Stanton, the original owner of 610 Regester (held until sold 1946) after purchasing the property from the Nolkers, was the Vice-President and Sales Manager for Baltimore Cooper Mills. Both owners during the 1950's and engineers for the Glenn L. Martin Co., Harold Schutz resided at 610 and Arthur E. Kinlein at 612 Regester. John L. Longley, owner of 614 Regester from 1926 to 1977, was a copper plater for Rustless Steel.⁹

The low number of owners of the house at 618 Regester and the other houses studied attest to the stability of this middle-class border to the neighborhood and to the success of the ideals for which the entire community of Stoneleigh was established.

*Boundaries: York Road (east side), Hatherleigh Road (both sides), Rich Hill Road (Both sides), Pemberton Road (south side), Kenleigh Road (both sides), and Regester Avenue (north side). Refer to attached Stoneleigh Plat Map.

** The house and garages of 610, 612, 614, and 616 Regester on two lots each maintain identical footprints as 618 Regester; 618 Regester occupies the width of 2 1/2 lots.

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

**618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.**

Significance (continued)

8.4

Notes

¹A Brief History of Stoneleigh, Mullikin; unpublished manuscript, pp. 4-5.

²A History of Baltimore County; Brooks & Rockel; 1979; p. 298.

³A Brief History of Stoneleigh, Mullikin; unpublished manuscript, p. 4, 6.

⁴ _____; p. 6.

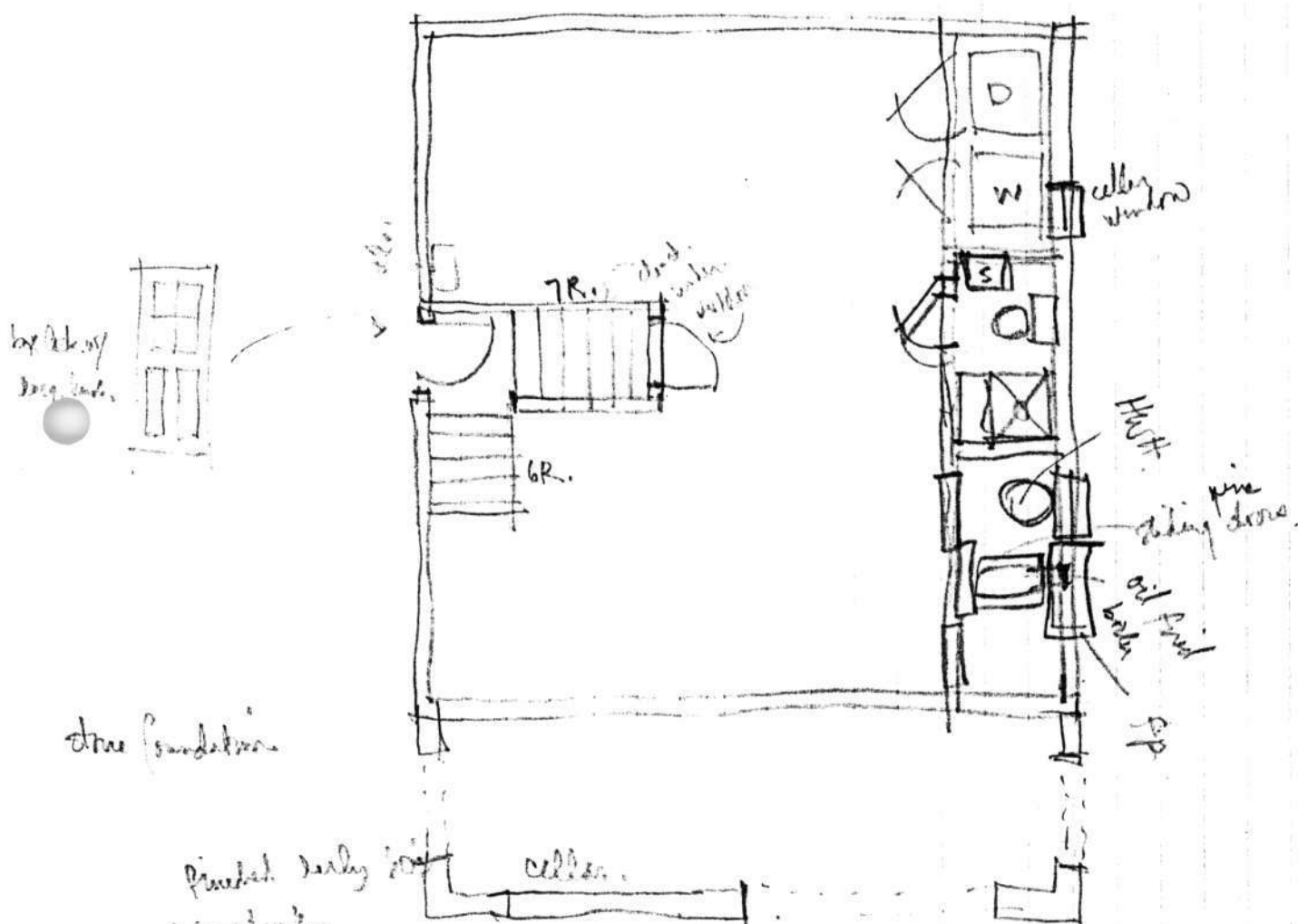
⁵A History of Baltimore County, Brooks & Rockel; 1979; p. 330.

⁶A Brief History of Stoneleigh, Mullikin; unpublished manuscript, pp. 6-7.

⁷ _____; p.7.

⁸ _____; pp. 8-9.

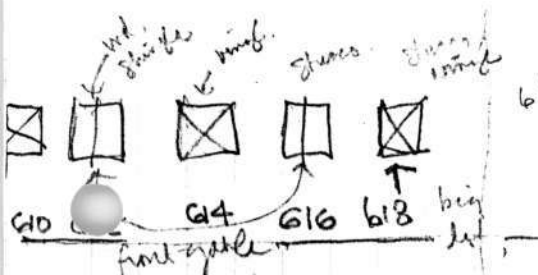
⁹Property ownership history taken from Land Records of Baltimore Co./
Owner occupation information taken from R. L. Polk's Baltimore & Baltimore
Suburban Directories, 1921, 23, 24-25, 28, 55, 59, 63.



finished early 1st cellar.
 completion
 massive ponding over the others
 drop. It is ceiling like of mass flow. light

618 Register
Balto. Co.

Cellar Plan (Field) NTS
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1993



same plan
back of 5

chain link fence

of Holly

gabled roof
1 car garage
16 panel door (not orig)
vinyl siding on front
stucco elsewhere
slate roof

chain link fence

to G6
Identical house -
front gabled -
stucco w/
formstone

chain link fence

semi-enclosed chimney
stepped slate built
brick
vertical
siding

G18 Register
Baltimore, Co.

Site Plan (Field) NTS
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov. 1993

to street

North
boundary of lot
Reserve Ave.

20' to street

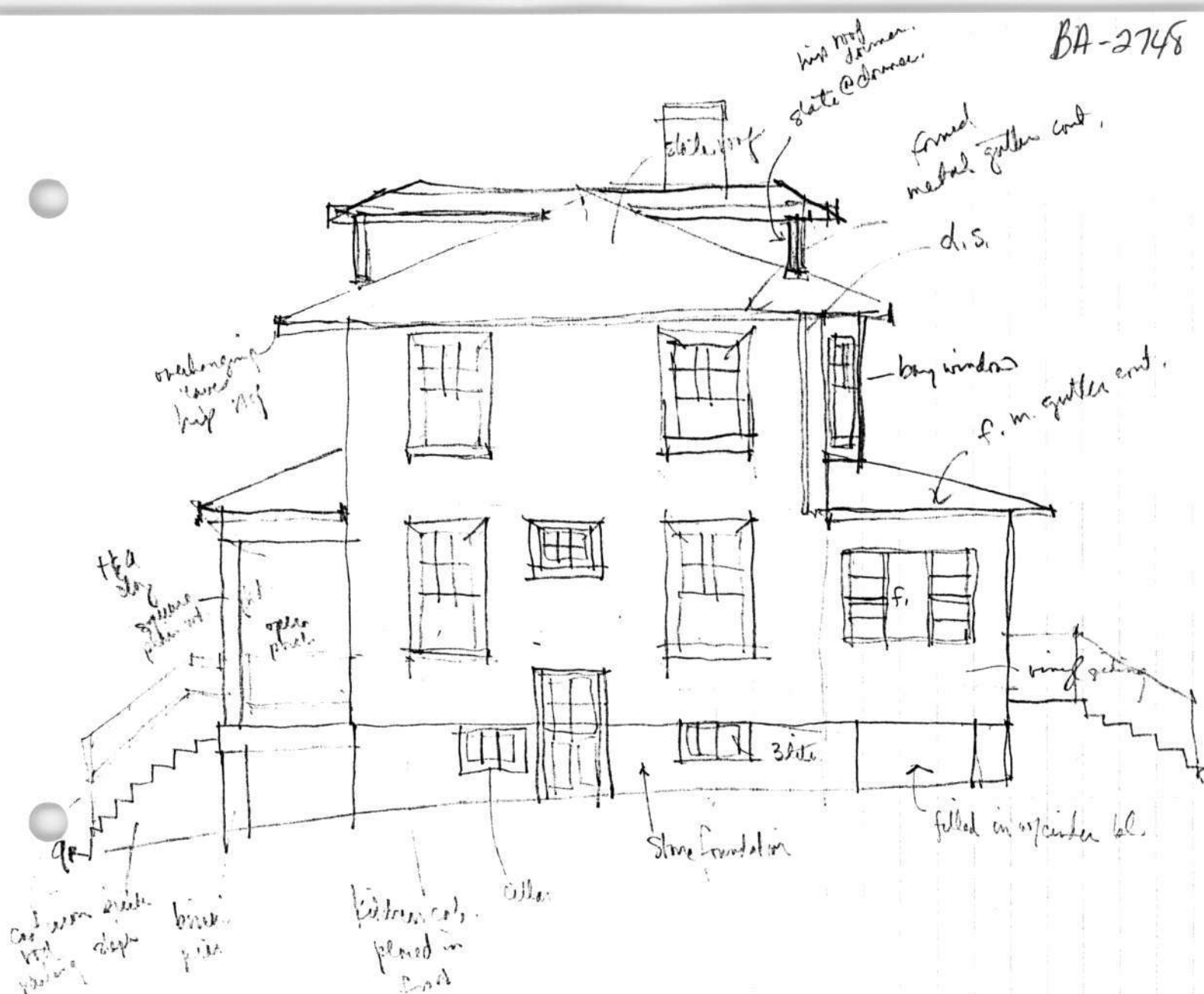
to street

to street

[illegible]

South Elevation
(Field) NTS
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1993

BA-2748



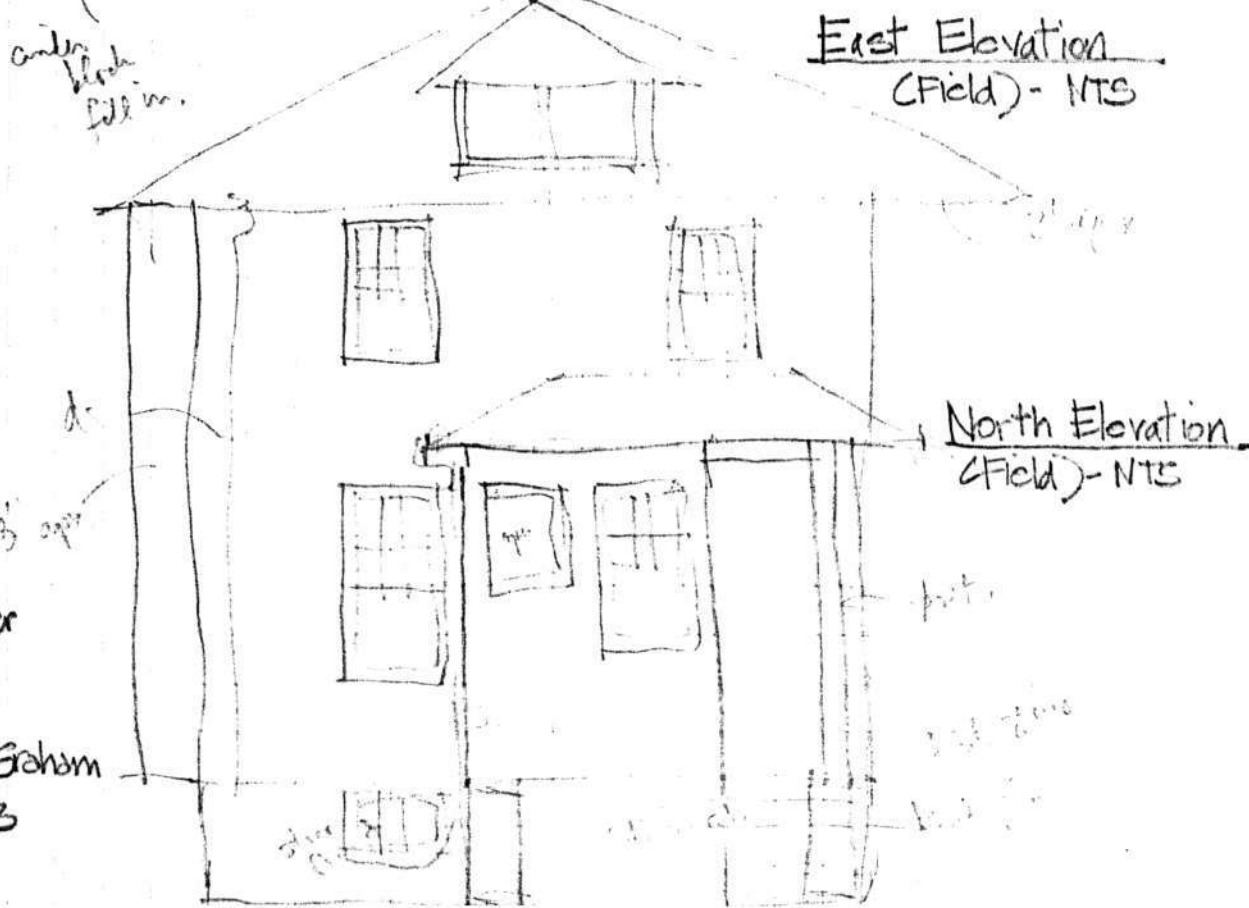
618 Regester
Balto. Co.

West Elevation
(Field) NTS
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1993

under. 'soffit
boards - new.



East Elevation
(Field) - NTS



North Elevation
(Field) - NTS

space.
open case.
porch. front.

618 Regester
Baltimore, Co.

Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1993

- others in area: wd, things.
- original ext. material + ⁴ floors.
- coal fired furnace.
- now, gas fired boiler - hot water.
- stone foundation rock, crypton.
- hardwood floors throughout.
- ^{5th} plaster walls.

moved in 61

Crystal
Islandier

6 well
6 well

orig. undeclared
pd. done.

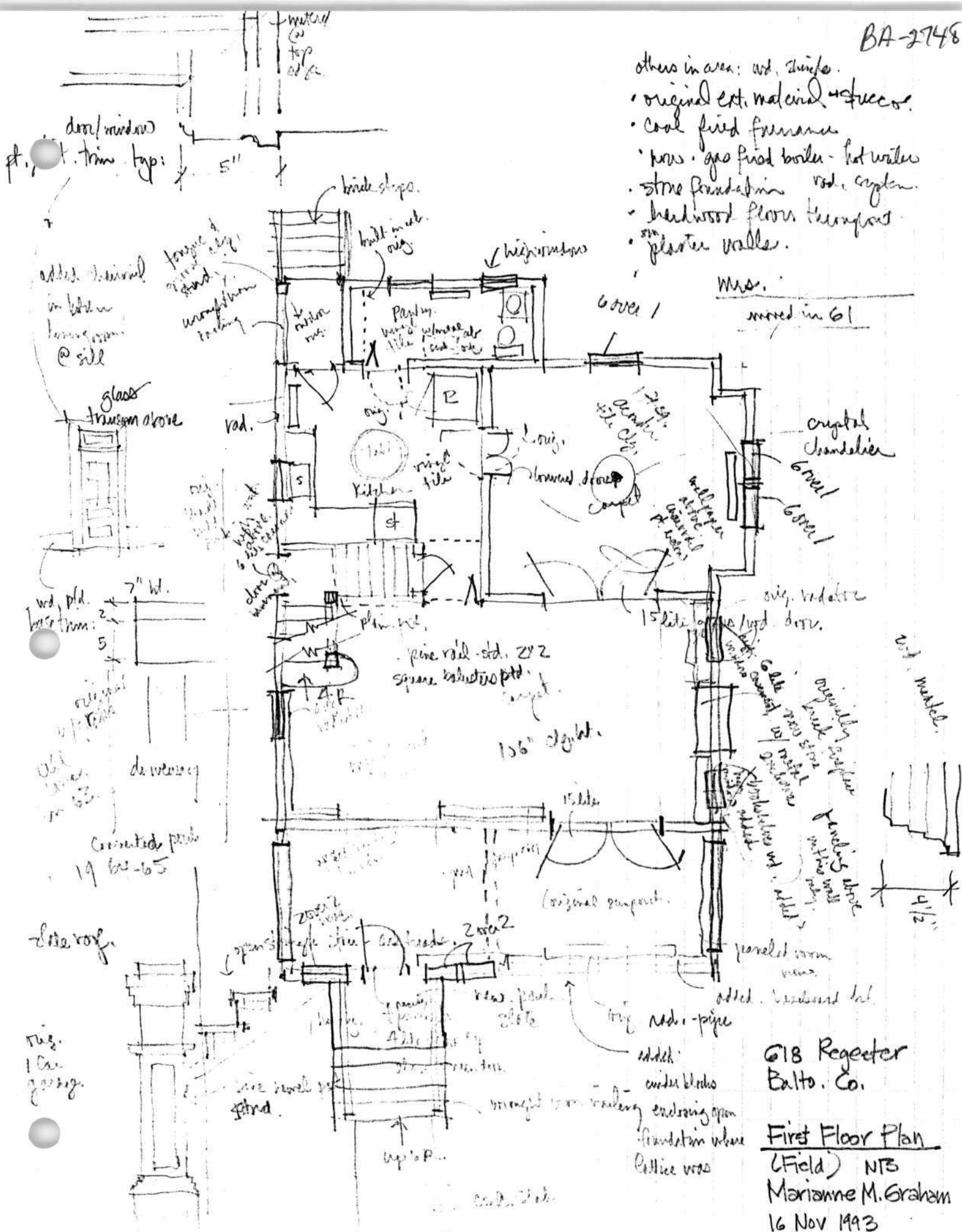
General Colburn
New York City
Nov 3 1841
Dear Sir
I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt
of your letter of the 21st
inst. and in reply to
inform you that the
same has been forwarded
to the proper authorities
for their consideration.
Very respectfully,
J. W. Colburn

Traveling with
parties only.

618 Register
Balto. Co.

First Floor Plan

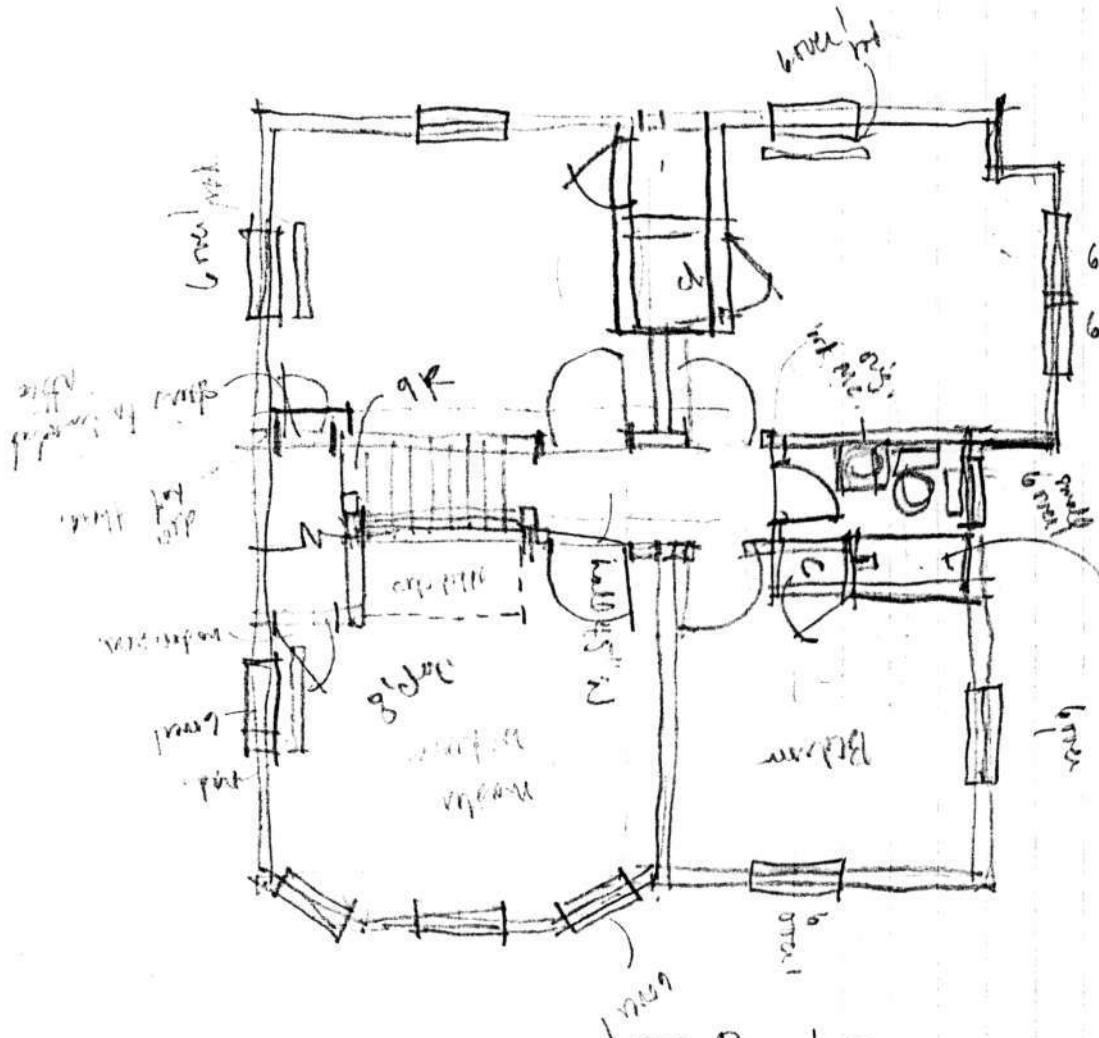
(Field) NTB
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1993



finished floor: moisture paneling
carpeting in parlor, wd. plank floor.

added bathroom across from stair
bldg 2 sink shys.
- dinner front & back.

cross
section



em. floor
moisture
paneling
carpeting
wd. plank
floor
bldg 2
sink
shys.
- dinner
front &
back

G18 Register
Balto. Co.

Second Floor Plan
(Field) HRS
Marianne M. Graham
16 Nov 1973

upstairs door, 2 panel
wd. plank w/ shingles

BA-2748

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.

Locational Map

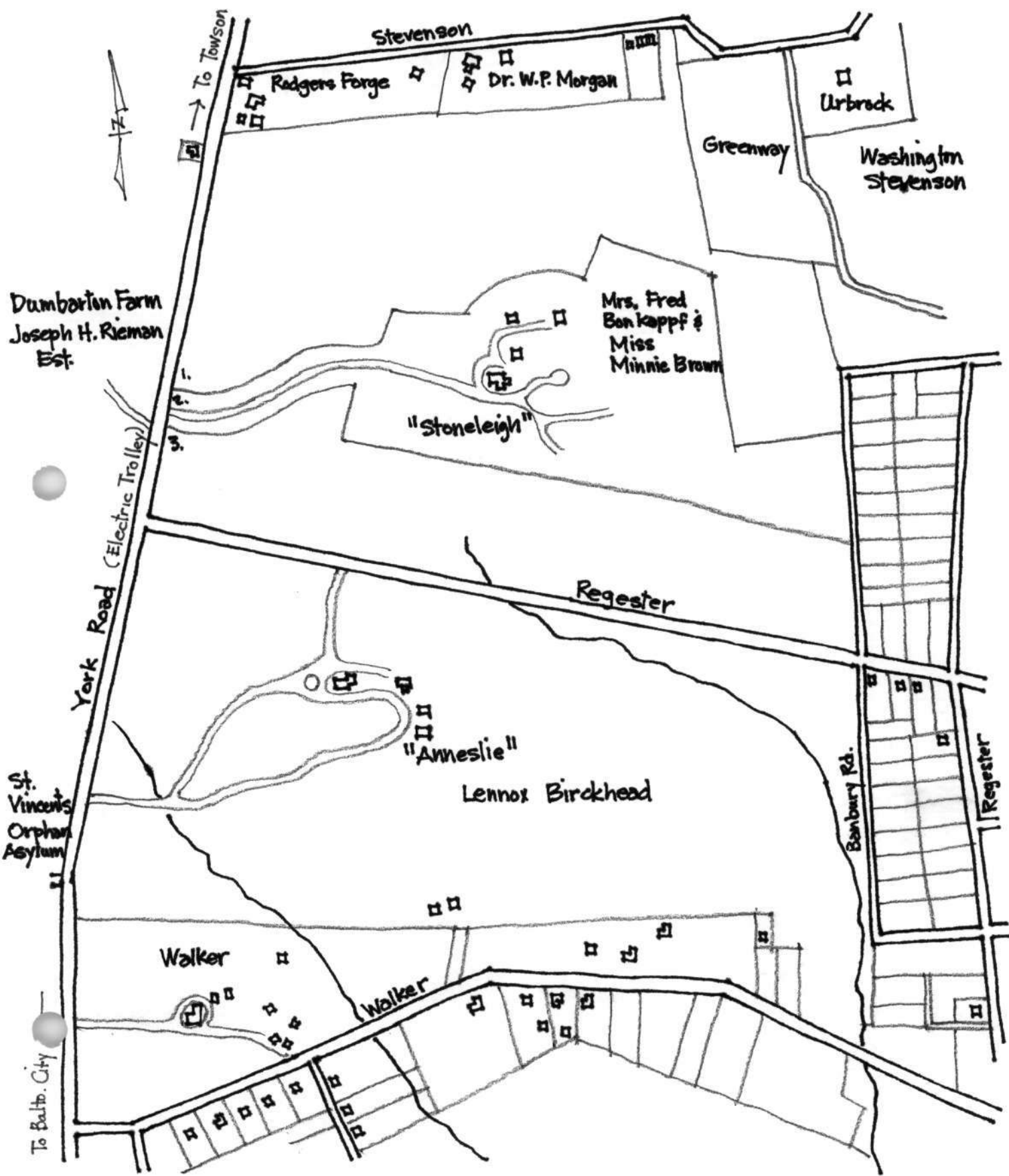
Not to Scale



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.

Historic Map: Bromley Atlas of Baltimore Co., 1915

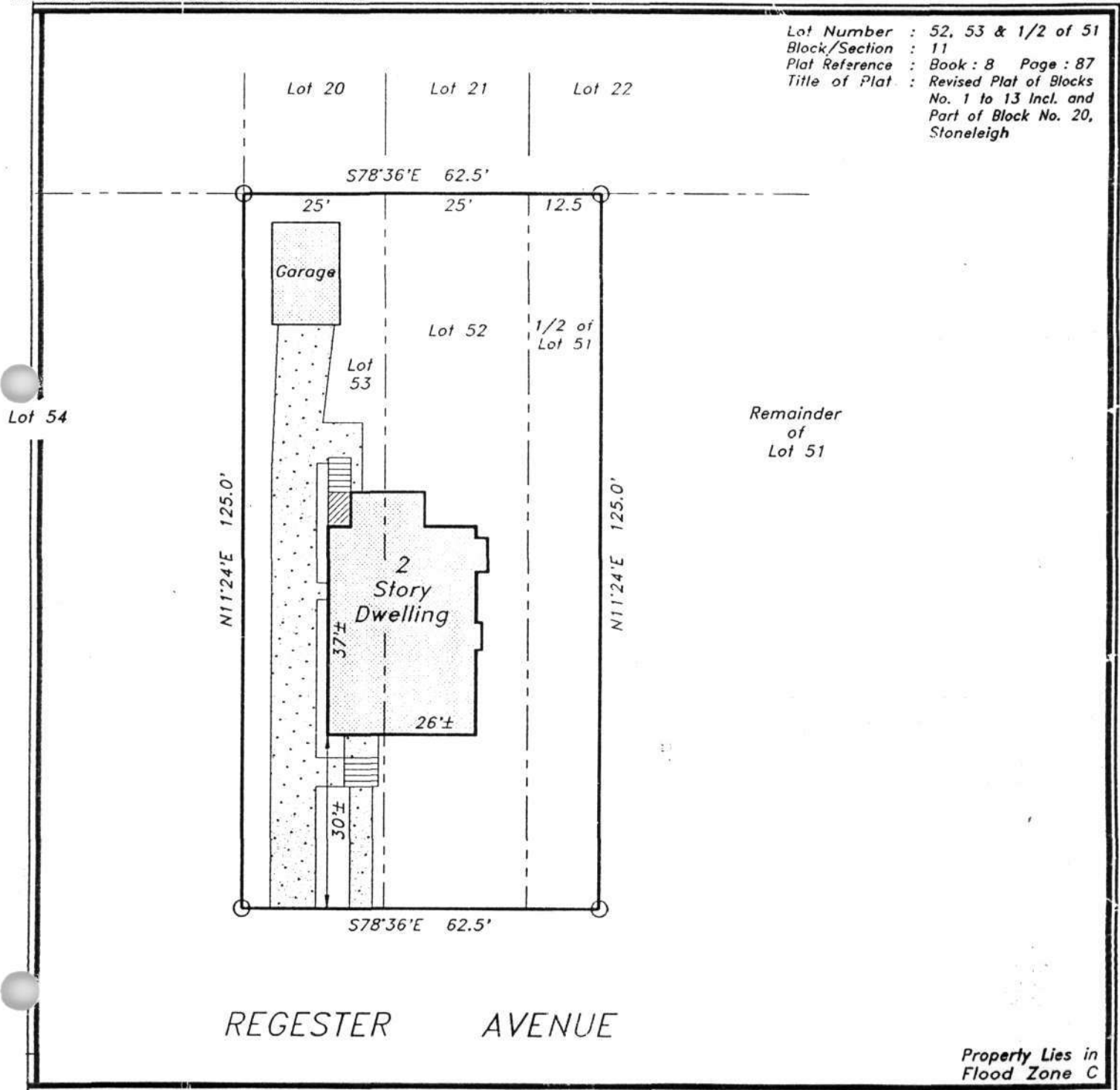
Plate 17, Not to Scale



**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM****618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.**

Property Plat

Scale: 1" = 25'

MORTGAGE INSPECTION DRAWING

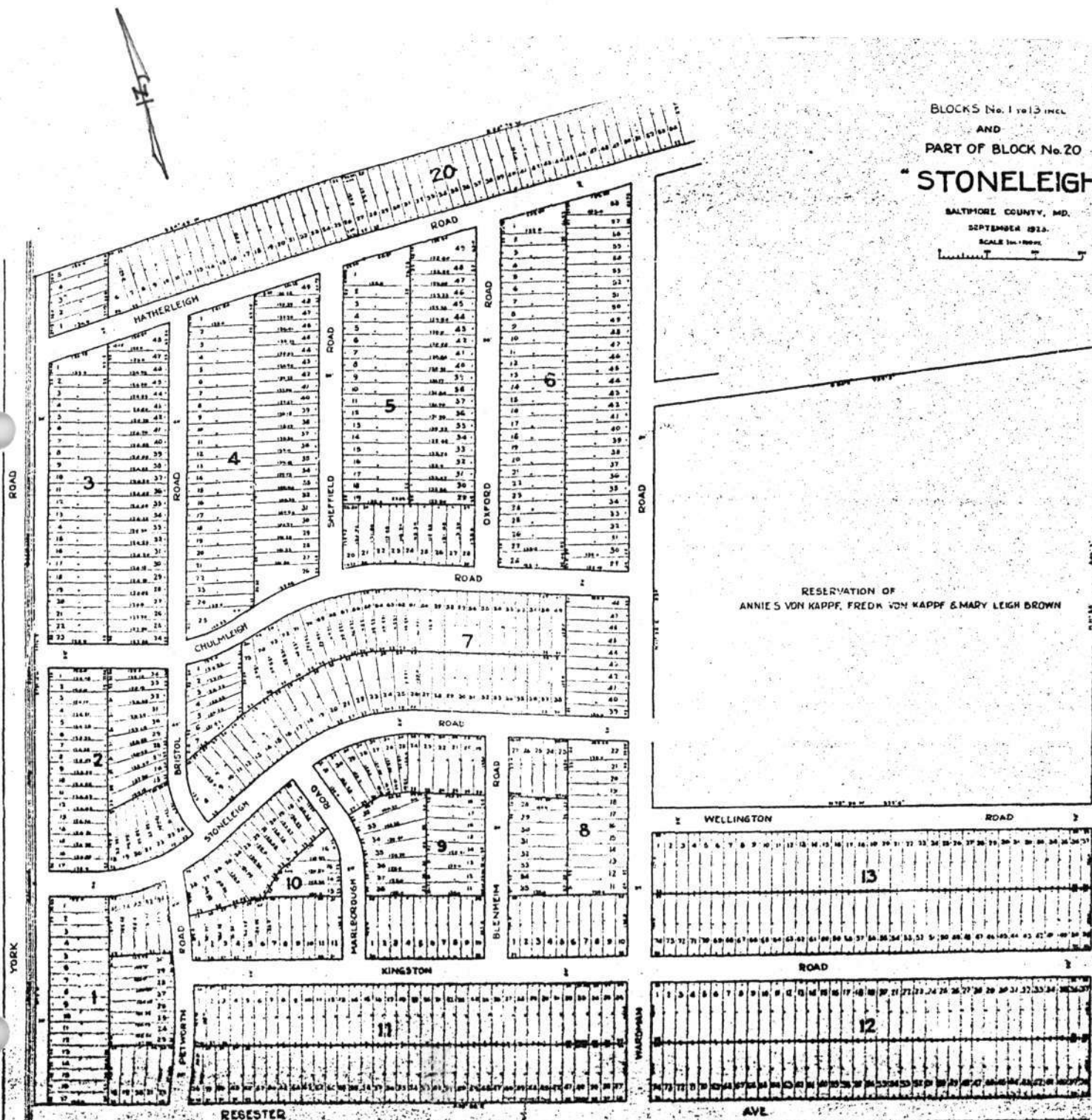
BA-2748

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.

Stoneleigh Plat Map, WPC 7 : 87

Filed 23 October 1923



**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM****618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.****Chain of Title**

8594 : 464
31 Aug. 1990
Deed

Margaret A. McElroy to Robert L. and Maureen A. Huether. Grantor conveys Lot nos. 52, 53 and westernmost 12 1/2 feet of Lot no. 51 in Block 11, Ninth Election District, Stoneleigh (as shown on the Revised Plat recorded among the land Records of Balto. Co. in Plat Book WPC 7, folio 87), and the improvements thereon being known as No. 618 Regester. Same obtained by James P. (death recorded 1988) and Margaret A. McElroy from Helen M. Kesting 13 November 1961, 3920:533.

3920 : 533
13 Nov. 1961
Deed

Helen M. Kesting to James P. and Margaret A. McElroy. Grantor conveys Lot nos. 52, 53 and westernmost 12 1/2 feet of Lot no. 51 in Block 11, Stoneleigh, and the improvements thereon. Same obtained by T. Edward (death recorded 1960) and Helen M. Kesting from Gilbert H. and Ella S. Unruh 27 July 1935, 957:304.

957 : 304
27 July 1935
Deed

Gilbert H. and Ella S. Unruh to T. Edward and Helen M. Kesting. Grantors convey Lot nos. 52, 53 and westernmost 12 1/2 feet of Lot no. 51 in Block 11, Stoneleigh, and the improvements thereon. Same obtained from Stoneleigh Corporation 15 September 1926, 634:579.

634 : 579
15 Sept. 1926
Deed

Stoneleigh Corporation to Gilbert H. and Ella S. Unruh. Grantor conveys Lot nos. 52, 53 and westernmost 12 1/2 feet of Lot no. 51 in Block 11, Stoneleigh, and the improvements thereon, subject to amended covenants running with the land (Discussed within 8:Significance). Same obtained from Annie S. Von Kapff et. al. 20 December 1922, 566:345.

566 : 345
20 Dec. 1922
Deed

Annie S. Von Kapff et. al. (Frederick Von Kapff and Mary Leigh Brown, unmarried - heirs to Robert C. Brown) to Stoneleigh Corporation. Grantors convey all land in the Ninth Election District of Balto. Co. east side of York Road minus land in reservation, subject to covenants running with the land (Discussed within 8:Significance). Same obtained by Robert C. Brown from Philip R. Howard, executor, 2 May 1850, 433:438.

433 : 438
2 May 1850
Deed

Philip R. Howard, executor, to Robert C. Brown. Grantor conveys all land in the Ninth Election District of Balto. Co. east side of York Road, north of Regester.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

**618 Regester Ave.
Baltimore Co.**

Major Bibliographical References

9.1

A Brief History of Stoneleigh; James C. Mullikin for Stoneleigh Community Association, Inc.; unpublished manuscript.

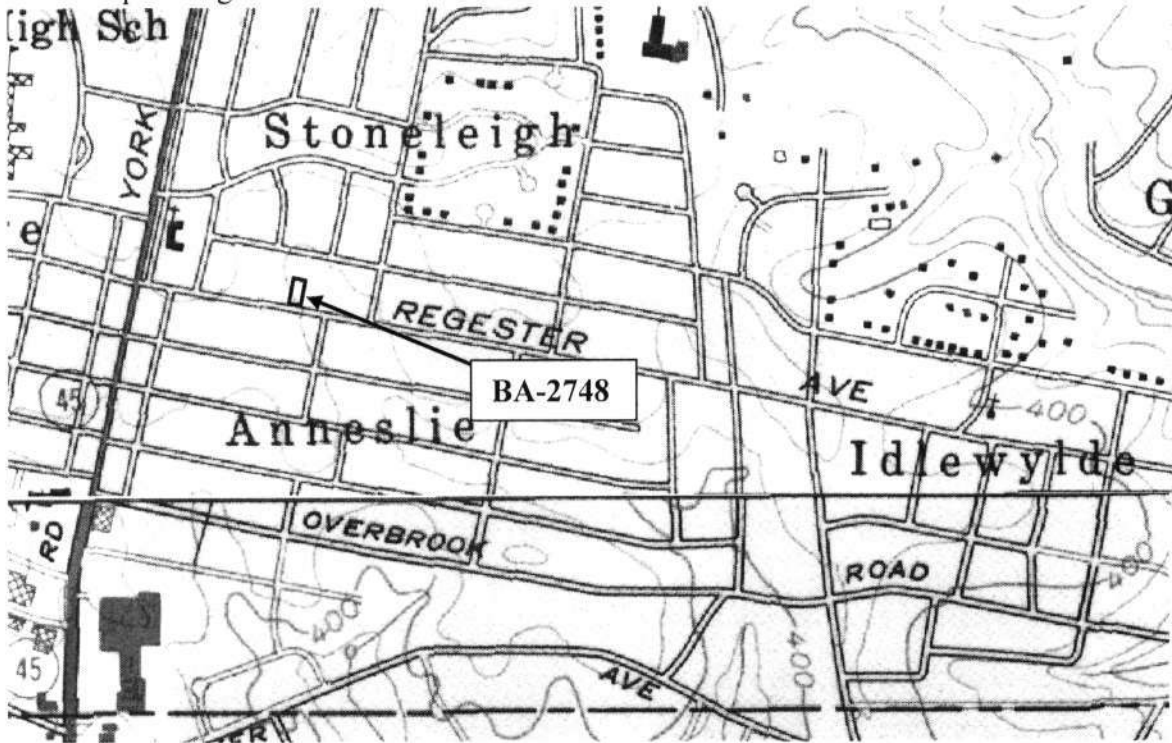
A Field Guide To American Houses; Virginia & Lee McAlester; Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1992.

A History of Baltimore County; Neal A. Brooks & Eric G. Rockel; Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Atlas of Baltimore Co., Maryland; G. W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1915.

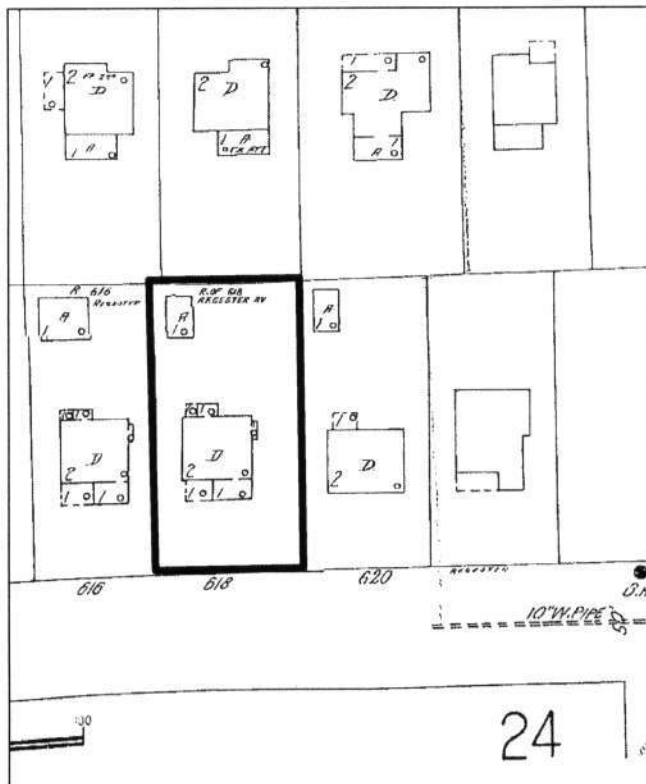
Land Records of Baltimore County, Maryland

BA-2748
 Kesting-McElroy Foursquare
 618 Regester Avenue, Govans
 Towson quadrangle



Sanborn Map, 1955

Microsoft Virtual Earth image, 2007





618 Regester Ave Balto. Co. Maryland

BA-2748

Photographer: Marianne M Graham

30 Nov. 1993

Maryland sHPO Negative

View toward SW corner of the house



618 Regester Ave. Balto. Co. Maryland

BA-2748

Photographer: Marianne M. Graham

30 Nov. 1993

Maryland SHPD Negative

View toward SW corner of the house and garage



618 Regester Ave. Edm. Co. Maryland

Photographer: Marianne M. Graham

30 Nov. 1923

Maryland State Museum

Source: Inventory of the collection



618 Reister Lvs. Esisto. Co. Maryland

Photographer: Mortimer M. Graham

30 Nov. 1993

Maryland Dept. - Negative

View toward SE corner of the house



618 Regester Ave. Balto. Co. Maryland

BA-2748

Photographer: Marianne M. Graham

30 Nov. 1993

Maryland SHPO - Negative

View looking NW down Regester Ave. showing
610 and 612 from left to right



618 Regester Ave. Balto. Co. Maryland

BA-2748

Photographer. Marianne M. Graham

30 Nov. 1993

Maryland SHPO- Negative

View looking north from Regester Ave. showing
612 and 614 from left to right



618 Regester Ave. Balto. Co. Maryland

BA-2748

Photographer: Marianne M. Graham

30 Nov 1993

Maryland SHPO- Negative

View looking NE down Regester Ave. showing
#614, 616 and 618 from left to right